

According to Duncan (1953) an adult human requires 7-8.5 mgm. of calcium per kg. per day. The original diet offered supplied approximately 89 mgm. of calcium per day to each of the 200-300 gram lorises.

A full milk and banana diet was restored, and the loris was given in addition 400 units of vitamin D daily for a month. Within two weeks there was marked improvement in his activity but it was approximately six weeks before he was again climbing. The deformities, as would be expected, persisted. Although activity returned to normal, there was little change to be seen in a X-ray taken ten weeks following the first.

Shortly thereafter he was accidentally electrocuted while climbing on a lamp.

This report is offered simply as an interesting case and also as yet another example of the pervasiveness of what James Thurber has termed the 'War Between Men and Women'.

CHRISTIAN MEDICAL COLLEGE,
VELLORE,
May 5, 1966

DONALD E. CAREY
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REFERENCE

DUNCAN, G. O. (1953): *Diseases of Metabolism*, 3rd ed. W.B. Saunders Co., Philadelphia.

2. AUTHORSHIP OF THE NAME *PRESBYTIS GEEI* [MAMMALIA : PRIMATES]

The existence of the Golden Langur in Assam was first brought to the notice of the writer of this note and his colleagues by Mr. E. P. Gee in the winter of 1954-55. On that information, the Zoological Survey of India sent a party headed by Mr. H. Khajuria in March-April 1955 to Jamduar, Goalpara district, Assam, to obtain some specimens of that langur for the department. Mr. Khajuria brought back six specimens which on careful study were found to represent a hitherto unknown species of langur of the genus *Presbytis*. Mr. Khajuria prepared the description and in appreciation of Mr. Gee's contribution to the discovery of the species, named it after him as *Presbytis geei*. While this paper was still under publication in the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History* (Sr. 12, Vol. 9, pp. 86-88, published February 1956), an article on the habits and a brief description of the Golden Langur by Mr. Gee appeared in the *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society* (Vol. 53, pp. 252-254, published January 1956), in which he wisely and carefully refrained from

using a scientific name for this species. Unfortunately, the editors of the *Journal* added a note to Mr. Gee's paper (*op. cit.*, p. 254): 'We understand from Mr. Khajuria of the Zoological Survey of India that his description of this new species of langur, which he has named *Presbytis geei*, will shortly be published in *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*.' Mr. Khajuria's paper also bore an editorial note (*op. cit.*, p. 86): 'Following a strict interpretation of the International Rules of Zoological Nomenclature this species has already been named (although unintentionally) *Presbytis geei* by E. P. Gee (*J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.* 1956, 53 : 252-254, 1 fig., published 20th January 1956). The present work is however the first scientific description of the new species.'

Since Mr. Gee was not responsible for the new name, the present writer has been ignoring his paper for the purpose of nomenclature. However, in the recently published revised edition of Prater's *THE BOOK OF INDIAN ANIMALS* (Bombay, 1965), there is a footnote on p. 42, which says that the author of the name *Presbytis geei* is Gee and not Khajuria, and this has prompted the writer to examine the question in detail.

All this confusion has arisen from the editors of the *Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society*, publishing the manuscript name *Presbytis geei* of Khajuria simultaneously with Mr. Gee's descriptive paper. Now, according to the Article 50 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (1961) the author of a name is the person who 'is alone responsible both for the name and the conditions that make it available.' It is very obvious that Mr. Gee is not responsible for the name *Presbytis geei* even though the descriptive matter in the text are not only diagnostic but also made by him. The editorial note to the paper (Gee, *op. cit.*, p. 254), however, constitutes, for the purpose of nomenclature, a separate article by separate authors. In this separate article no description is given and the authorship of the new name is clearly credited to Mr. Khajuria. At this place and in this separate paper by the editors the name *Presbytis geei* is a *nomen nudum*. Furthermore, the authorship of this footnote article is anonymous and the name *Presbytis geei* would be unavailable according to Article 14 of the Code, even if it were otherwise considered available. In Mr. Gee's paper the name *Presbytis geei* does not occur anywhere except in the caption of the distribution map, but there is no indication anywhere if this name refers to the Golden Langur. As such, Mr. Gee cannot be held responsible for introducing the new name.

It follows, therefore, that the first publication of the name *Presbytis geei* in a manner to satisfy the provisions of the Code for availability is that in the *Annals and Magazine of Natural History*, Series 12, Volume 9, pages 86-88, and that the authorship of the name is to be credited to Mr. Khajuria as of February 1956.

The writer is greatly indebted to Professor Ernst Mayr and Dr. Krishna Kant Tiwari for their wise counsel in his attempt to solve this problem.

ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,
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BISWAMOY BISWAS

3. SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE HAIRYFOOTED GERBILLE, *GERBILLUS GLEADOWI* MURRAY, IN THE RAJASTHAN DESERT

(With a text-figure and a photograph)

There is little information available on the ecology of the Hairy-footed Gerbille, *Gerbillus gleadowi* Murray (Blanford 1888-91). These observations were, therefore, recorded on the rodent in the westernmost part of the Rajasthan desert.

Habitat. *G. gleadowi* is distributed in the arid belt of Jaisalmer-Gadra Road-Jodhpur and is more common in the Gadra Road region where its burrows are found on sand dunes, usually in association with the bushes *Calotropis procera*, *Zizyphus nummularia*, *Capparis decidua*, and *Aerva tomentosa*—they seem to prefer the first plant to burrow under. Their burrows are not found on sandy plains in this area; there they are replaced by the Desert Gerbille, *Meriones hurrianae*. In the Jaisalmer tract, the desert is predominantly characterized by gravelly sand formations and the *Gerbillus* inhabit mainly the sides of the roads, where their burrows are to be found under *Calotropis* and *Zizyphus* bushes. Their habitat is characterized by *Calotropis* bushes and long streaks of sand dunes in the sandy plains, away from the road where they are found in patches and their number is usually very low. In this region they prefer habitat having hummocks of sand. Discussing the habitat preference of the gerbilles of Israel, Zahavi & Wahrman (1957) grouped *G. gerbillus*, the Middle Eastern species nearest to *G. gleadowi*, as psammophile, i.e. 'confined to either shifting sand dunes or to more or less stable sand formation'. In the Rajasthan desert, *G. gleadowi* is also psammophile in its habitat preference.

Burrows. The burrows follow a simple pattern and have a principal gallery with two to three smaller tunnels leading to openings outside, a bolt run, and a resting chamber (see Figure). The burrow resembles that of *G. gerbillus*, which comprises of a main tunnel bifurcating at both extremities into four galleries (Petter 1961), a bolt run, and an ampulla